

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (cancelled).

29. (currently amended) A doctor blade mounting system for applying liquids to a rotatable cylinder in printing equipment comprising an elongated frame mounted adjacent to said rotatable cylinder, said elongated frame including a support and a clamping portion mounted with respect to said support, said clamping portion including an elongated slit including an opening, a doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit parallel to said rotatable cylinder for operative wiping engagement with said rotatable cylinder, and clamping means for fixing said doctor blade within said elongated slit, said clamping means ~~being~~ comprising an elastomeric material disposed within said elongated slit and accessible from said opening in said slit whereby said elastomeric material is resiliently disposed with respect to said doctor blade to provide a damping action for said doctor blade, and is accessible from said opening to assist in removing said doctor blade from said elongated slit.

30. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means is tightly received within said elongated slit.

31. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means fixes said doctor blade by means of friction.

32. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means supports at least one side of said doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit.

33. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means is resiliently disposed within said elongated slit.

34. (cancelled).

35. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said clamping means comprises at least one elastomeric member.

36. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means is in the shape of a wedge strip comprising a shape intended to fit and lock within a cross-sectional profile of said elongated slit.

37. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means supports an edge of said doctor blade disposed within said elongated slit.

38. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 35 wherein said elastomeric member has a hardness of about 70 degrees Shore.

39. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 29 wherein said support and said clamping portion comprise separate parts, and said support includes at least one end portion, and wherein said clamping means resiliently clamps said clamping portion to said end portion of said support.

40. (currently amended) A doctor blade mounting system comprising a doctor blade clamping portion comprising a solid material and including a slit including an opening for receiving a doctor blade, and clamping means for clamping said doctor blade within said slit, said clamping means being comprising an elastomeric material disposed within said elongated slit and accessible from said opening in said slit whereby said elastomeric material is resiliently arranged to provide a damping motion for said doctor blade, and is accessible from said opening to assist in removing said doctor blade from said elongated slit.

41. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is tightly received within said slit.

42. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means fixes said doctor blade by means of friction.

43. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means supports at least one side of said doctor blade disposed within said slit.

44. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is resiliently disposed within said slit.

45. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means is removably disposed within said slit.

46. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 40 wherein said clamping means comprises at least one elastomeric member.

47. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means is in the shape of a wedge strip comprising a shape intended to fit and lock within a cross-sectional profile of said slit.

48. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein at least a portion of said clamping means supports an edge of said doctor blade disposed within said slit.

49. (previously presented) The doctor blade mounting system of claim 46 wherein said elastomeric member has a hardness of about 70 degrees Shore.

50. (currently amended) A chambered doctor blade mounting system for applying liquids to a rotatable cylinder in printing equipment comprising an elongated frame mounted adjacent to said

rotatable cylinder, said elongated frame comprising a support and a pair of clamping portions, a pair of elongated doctor blades mounted on said pair of clamping portions whereby said pair of elongated doctor blades are disposed parallel to said rotatable cylinder for operative wiping engagement with said rotatable cylinder, each of said pair of clamping portions including an elongated slit including an opening for receiving each of said pair of elongated doctor blades, said pair of clamping portions and said support comprising separate parts, said support including a pair of end portions, and clamping means comprising an elastomeric material disposed within said elongated slit and accessible from said opening in said slit whereby said elastomeric material is resiliently clamping said clamping portion to said pair of end portions of said support, and is accessible from said opening to assist in removing said doctor blade from said elongated slit.

51. (currently amended) A method for removably clamping a doctor blade in a clamping member comprising an elongated clamping member comprising solid material, said elongated clamping member including a slit including an opening for introduction of said doctor blade, said method comprising inserting a portion of said doctor blade into said slit through said opening, and inserting resilient clamping means into said slit through said opening for resiliently supporting at least one side of said doctor blade within said slit.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 including lubricating said clamping means prior to inserting said clamping means into said slit.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein said clamping means comprising an elastomeric member, and including manually inserting said clamping means into said slit.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 51 including attaching said clamping means to a substantially U-shaped support.

55. (currently amended) A method for removably attaching a doctor blade clamping portion to a support having at least one end portion, said doctor blade clamping portion including a first slit including a first opening and a second slit having a second opening, said first slit intended to accommodate said doctor blade, said method comprising introducing ~~the~~ said at least one end portions of said frame-support into said second opening of said second slit and inserting resilient clamping means into said second opening of said second slit for resiliently supporting said at least one side of end portion of said support within said clamping portion.